

Claims

What is claimed is:

- [Signature]*
8/17/01
- [c1] A threaded pipe connection comprising:
 - a pin member having external threads increasing in width in one direction;
 - a box member having internal threads increasing in width in the other direction so that complementary internal and external threads move into engagement upon make-up of the connection; and
 - a wear indicator for the connection..
 - [c2] The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the wear indicator is disposed on the pin member.
 - [c3] The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the wear indicator is disposed on the box member.
 - [c4] The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the pin member has an external shoulder and the wear indicator is disposed on the external shoulder.
 - [c5] The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the box member has an external shoulder and the wear indicator is disposed on the external shoulder.
 - [c6] The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the pin member has an internal shoulder and the wear indicator is disposed on the internal shoulder.
 - [c7] The threaded pipe connection of claim 1 wherein the box member has an internal shoulder and the wear indicator is disposed on the internal shoulder.
 - [c8] The threaded connection of claim 1 wherein:
 - the pin member has an external shoulder;
 - the box member has an external shoulder; and

the wear indicator is disposed on the external shoulder of the pin member and the external shoulder of the box member.

- [c9] The threaded connection of claim 1 wherein:
the pin member has an internal shoulder;
the box member has an internal shoulder; and
the wear indicator is disposed on the internal shoulder of the pin member and the internal shoulder of the box member
- [c10] A method of indicating connection wear comprising:
providing a pin member having external threads increasing in width in one direction;
providing a box member having internal threads increasing in width in the other direction so that the complementary internal and external threads move into engagement upon make-up of the connection;
providing a wear indicator for the connection; and
rotationally engaging the pin member and the box member.
- [c11] The method of claim 10 further comprising:
disposing the wear indicator on the pin member.
- [c12] The method of claim 10 further comprising:
disposing the wear indicator on the box member.
- [c13] The method of claim 10 wherein the pin member has an external shoulder, the method further comprising:
disposing the wear indicator on the external shoulder of the pin member.
- [c14] The method of claim 10 wherein the box member has an external shoulder, the method further comprising:
disposing the wear indicator on the external shoulder of the box member.

- [c15] The method of claim 10 wherein the pin member has an internal shoulder, the method further comprising:
disposing the wear indicator on the internal shoulder of the pin member.
- [c16] The method of claim 10 wherein the box member has an internal shoulder, the method further comprising:
disposing the wear indicator on the internal shoulder of the box member.
- [c17] The method of claim 10 wherein the pin member has an external shoulder and the box member has an external shoulder, the method further comprising:
disposing the wear indicator on at least one of the external shoulder of the pin member and the external shoulder of the box member.
- [c18] The method of claim 10 wherein the pin member has an internal shoulder and the box member has an internal shoulder, the method further comprising:
disposing the wear indicator on at least one of the internal shoulder of the pin member and the internal shoulder of the box member.
- [c19] A threaded pipe connection comprising:
a pin member having external threads increasing in one direction;
a box member having internal threads increasing in the other direction so that complementary internal and external threads move into engagement upon make-up of the connection; and
means for indicating connection wear.

